

Parable of the lamp.

NEED:

Lamp

Basket

'Be the light' instruction cards

'God's Wonderful World' CD: track 9

CD player

Squares of paper for light switch covers

Bluetack

ON ARRIVAL:

Draw a picture of the light in your bedroom. CD playing track 9.

INTRODUCTION:

<http://ministry-to-children.com/preschool-bible-lesson-shining-the-light/>

Gather the children around you on the floor

Have the lamp nearby and plugged in.

Ask: What is this? (A lamp) What is a lamp used for? (Light, help us see in the dark) Turn the lamp on. State: That's right. This lamp provides us with light. What do you think would happen if I put this basket over the lamp? (you wouldn't be able to see the light) Demonstrate by putting the basket over the lamp. Hmmm. Would it light up a room very well from under there? (No!) You are right. Where do we usually put lamps? (on a table, shelf, etc.) If we want to see the light of a lamp, we put it in a place where we can see it (place the lamp on the table). It would be silly to be put a lamp under a basket!

BIBLE READINGS:

John [8:12](#)

12 Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."

Matthew [5:14-16](#)

14 "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.

15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.

16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

DISCUSSION:

This sounds a lot like what we were talking about earlier! So, is a lamp brought in a room to be put under a basket? (no) Jesus says a lamp is brought in to be put on a table.

When we hear God's Word, it brings light to the darkness of our hearts.

What is the darkness? (Darkness is the devil and evil, sin, bad choices)

What is the light? (The light is the Gospel, the bible, Jesus, good choices, good deeds.)

Think about a glorious sunrise or sunset. Light surrounding house

Also light is not heavy, easy to carry - not too blinding light

Jesus is telling us that we should not hide the light of His Word. Instead, we should let it shine! How do you think we could let the light shine? (sharing God's Word, His light, with others, doing good deeds and helping other people, showing a good example, being a good role model. We should show others how to live a life as Jesus would want to bring hope, courage and joy to others that they can trust in Jesus)

If we do not share God's word with others, it is like we are a lamp and have put ourselves under a basket. No one can see our light if we do that. When we show a good example, we are placing ourselves on a table so the whole world can see the light of God.

SONG

MAKING A LIGHT SWITCH COVER:

<http://ministry-to-children.com/jesus-is-the-light-lesson/>

“You are now going to decorate a light switch cover which you can tape onto the light switch in your room at home. Every time you turn on the light in your bedroom you will see the darkness disappear. You will remember that Jesus is the Light.”

Measure the dimensions of a single switch light switch cover in your home. Draw a rectangle of the same dimensions on a piece of blank white paper.

Draw a smaller rectangle in the center that will be cut out by the children to fit over the actual switch.

Trace over the two rectangles with a black marker. Make enough copies of the template for one per child.

Following the lesson, the children will decorate their template. They can draw on it (eg anything that gives light: stars, sun, a lamp, candle)

or write the reference John [8:12](#). 'Light of the world please shine on me'

When finished decorating they will cut out the template and cut out the rectangular hole for the switch.

When the child gets home, they can blue tack their paper cover over the light switch cover they already have in their bedroom.

BE THE LIGHT GAME:

Have a bag with slips of paper in

Choose someone to 'be the light': without talking, they pull out a piece of paper and have to show the others what to do, the others have to copy.

PRAYER:

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, light of the world,
come and shine on us
and help us to shine our lights.
Amen